

AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF
MONTGOMERY, VIRGINIA HELD ON THE 15TH DAY OF APRIL 2004, AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE
CHRISTIANSBURG HIGH SCHOOL, CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA:

PRESENT: James D. Politis -Chair
Mary W. Biggs -Supervisors
Gary D. Creed
Doug Marrs
John A. Muffo
Steve L. Spradlin
B. Clayton Goodman, III -County Administrator
L. Carol Edmonds -Assistant County Administrator
Martin M. McMahon -County Attorney
Robert C. Parker -Public Information Officer
Vickie L. Swinney -Secretary

School Board

Tacy L. Newell -Chair
Mary Hanye North -Vice-Chair
Penny Franklin -School Board Members
B. Wendell Jones
Douglas W. Eckel
W. Wat Hopkins
Fredrick S. Morton, IV -Superintendent
Dan Berenato -Director of Facilities Management & Planning
Walt Shannon -Director of Management Services
Anita Johnston -Clerk

ABSENT: Annette S. Perkins -Vice-Chair, Board of Supervisors

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order.

INTO WORK SESSION

On a motion by Mary W. Biggs, seconded by John A. Muffo and carried unanimously,

BE IT RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors hereby enters into a Work Session for the purpose of the following:

1. Joint Discussions with the School Board

The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows:

<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mary W. Biggs	None	Annette S. Perkins
Doug Marrs		
Steve L. Spradlin		
John A. Muffo		
Gary D. Creed		
James D. Politis		

Old Blacksburg Middle School

Dan Berenato, Director of Facilities Management for the Montgomery County Public Schools, presented the history on the old Blacksburg Middle School. The school was built in 1954 and was operated as the Blacksburg High School. In 1974 a new high school was built and the school facility became the Blacksburg Middle School. In June 2002 the new Blacksburg Middle School opened and the facility was closed.

As a result of the closing of the school, a facilities planning study was conducted to determine the re-use of the vacated facilities and completed in May 2002. As a result of the study, six long term options and three short term options were developed. The School Board decided to pursue the leasing option to community groups. Therefore, an RFP was issued and twelve groups responded through five submissions. The School Board decided to pursue the lease with "Community Groups of Blacksburg" headed by the Town of Blacksburg.

The Town of Blacksburg, with the help of Virginia Tech Business Class, developed a business plan. They estimated costs at \$214,000 per year. After seeking commitments from all groups who expressed interest, only \$116,000 was committed. The Town of Blacksburg decided not to pursue the lease due to not being

able to cover the projected costs. As of February 2004, the “Blacksburg Alliance” suggested developing and operating a community projects center similar to the Jefferson Center in Roanoke.

Currently, the School Board is utilizing the school facilities in various ways. Below is a partial list of users who are leasing out portions of the school or have used it for events:

- St. John Neuman Academy
- Performing Arts Institute of Virginia
- AAU and other youth basketball teams
- NRV Cheer Sensations
- YMCA
- Operation Christmas Child
- Adult Soccer Clubs
- NRV Association for the Education of Young Children

The facility is also being used by the governing bodies of Blacksburg, Christiansburg, and Montgomery County at no cost. Groups such as the After Prom Committees, Park & Recreation, Boys and Girls Club of the New River Valley, New River United Soccer Association, and Law Enforcement. Mr. Berenato reported that the operating cost for the old Blacksburg Middle School is approximately \$134,000 per year. Total revenue received from leasing out the facility totaled \$21,000.

The School Board is still discussing uses for the old Blacksburg Middle School and the possibility of selling the school facility. One option being considered is housing the students from Prices Fork Elementary School during the renovations of the Prices Fork Elementary. There is still a lot of discussion and decisions to be made on the Prices Fork Elementary, from renovations of the existing facility to building a new school. Another option is turning the facility into a community use facility like the Jefferson Center in Roanoke.

Several members of the Board of Supervisors suggested the School Board take in to consideration the potential growth in the Prices Fork area in their discussion regarding Prices Fork Elementary School. Supervisor Politis pointed out that the Prices Fork area is one of the planned “Villages” in the revised comprehensive plan and this could potentially add more children to the schools. Another factor to consider is the proposed Tom’s Creek Sewer Project, which could lead to development in the Prices Fork area. Also, what is VDOT’s long range plan for Prices Fork Road? This could be another factor to consider when discussing how to proceed with the Prices Fork Elementary School.

Public-Private Partnership

Supervisor Politis stated he would like to discuss the possibility of public-private financing for school facilities in the future. The Virginia Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act of 2002 allows public entities in Virginia to enter into public-private partnerships to develop a wide range of public facilities after

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a determination that there is a need for the project and that private involvement may provide the project to the public in a timely or cost-effective manner. Supervisor Politis believes this concept may be beneficial in resolving the needs of school facilities.

OUT OF WORK SESSION

On a motion by John A. Muffo, seconded by Gary D. Creed and carried unanimously,

BE IT RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors ends their Work Session to return to Regular Session.

The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows:

<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mary W. Biggs	None	Annette S. Perkins
Doug Marrs		
Steve L. Spradlin		
John A. Muffo		
Gary D. Creed		
James D. Politis		

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by John A. Muffo, seconded by Gary D. Creed and carried unanimously, the Board adjourned to Monday, April 19, 2004 at 7:15 p.m.

The vote on the foregoing motion was as follows:

<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mary W. Biggs	None	Annette S. Perkins
Doug Marrs		
Steve L. Spradlin		
John A. Muffo		
Gary D. Creed		
James D. Politis		

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.